
By: **Delegate Hurson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the Department of Health and**
3 **Mental Hygiene**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the
5 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the membership,
6 chairman, and staff for the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task
7 Force may receive certain reimbursement as provided in the State budget;
8 providing for the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit a
9 certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this
10 Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the
11 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Reorganization of the Department of
15 Health and Mental Hygiene.

16 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

17 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
18 of the Senate;

19 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
20 the House;

21 (3) three representatives from the Department of Health and Mental
22 Hygiene, appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

23 (4) one representative from the Department of Budget and Management,
24 appointed by the Secretary of Budget and Management;

25 (5) one local health officer, appointed by the Department of Health and
26 Mental Hygiene;

27 (6) one representative from the Association of Maryland Hospitals and
28 Health Systems;

1 (7) one representative from the Mental Health Association of Maryland;

2 (8) one representative of the Maryland Association of Nonprofit
3 Organizations; and

4 (9) one individual with expertise in reorganization of State agencies,
5 appointed by the Department of Budget and Management.

6 (c) The chairman shall be elected from among its members.

7 (d) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates
8 shall jointly designate the chairman of the Task Force.

9 (e) A member of the Task Force:

10 (1) may not receive compensation; but

11 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
12 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

13 (f) The Department of Legislative Services shall staff the Task Force.

14 (g) The Task Force shall:

15 (1) study ways to improve the delivery of health and mental health
16 services to residents of the State;

17 (2) study the structure of the Department of Health and Mental
18 Hygiene, including the effects of moving the following programs out of the
19 Department:

20 (i) the Developmental Disabilities Administration;

21 (ii) the Mental Hygiene Administration; and

22 (iii) the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

23 (3) examine the following areas in the Department of Health and Mental
24 Hygiene:

25 (i) the financing of the health care delivery system;

26 (ii) program and service delivery;

27 (iii) the review and application of quality assurance standards and
28 regulation implementation; and

29 (iv) administrative and operational support;

30 (4) examine the organization and structure of health departments in
31 other states; and

1 (5) study any other issue that the Task Force deems appropriate to the
2 reorganization of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

3 (h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
4 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General
5 Assembly on or before December 1, 2004.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 3 months and, at
8 the end of December 31, 2004, with no further action required by the General
9 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.